

The EU Bioeconomy Strategy – the update process

SCALE-UP online seminar

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The Bioeconomy in the EU

EU's current definition of the Bioeconomy:

“All sectors and associated services and investments that produce, use, process, distribute or consume biological resources (animals, plants, micro-organisms, including organic waste), including ecosystem services”.

- Ecosystem **services** on land and sea
- Primary **production** systems - agriculture, forestry, aquaculture / fisheries – incl. **waste/side streams**
- Food, feed, fibre, **bio-based industry**, fuels and bioenergy



Relevance of the bioeconomy for farmers, foresters and rural communities

Opportunities

Agriculture and forestry: main providers of the biomass

Opportunity for farmers and foresters to generate additional income, reduce costs and create new jobs

Green transition of agriculture and forestry

Reduction of costs: circularity

Job creation in rural areas

Green alternative solutions: biofertilizers, biopesticides...

Challenges

So far primary producers are not yet well integrated in the bioeconomy value chains (limited gain)

Pressure on the biomass = pressure on natural resources, trade-offs

Regulatory barriers

What do we do?

Bioeconomy in the CAP

- Part of the **CAP strategic objectives**
- **25 CSPs include bioeconomy:** e.g. investments, cooperation, and sectorial interventions

Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programme Cluster 6

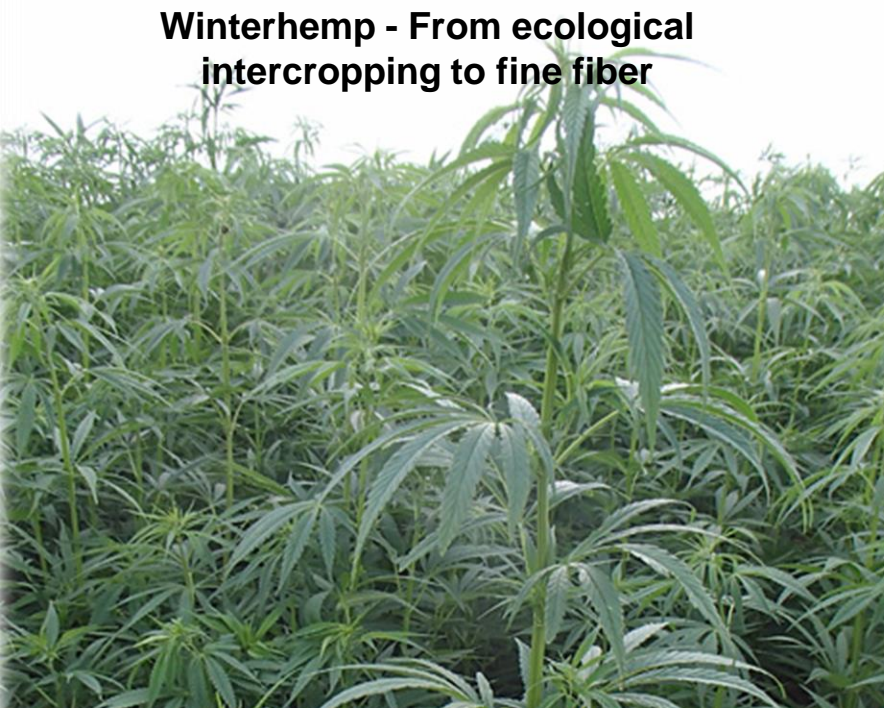
- **Research and innovation projects** to develop bio-based fertilizers and bio-based alternatives for crop protection, valorising agricultural residues, byproducts, and waste in rural areas.

Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking (CBE JU)

- Private-public partnership
- **R&I projects** to develop inclusive business models for primary producers in bio-based value chains
- **Working group to be set up in 2025**

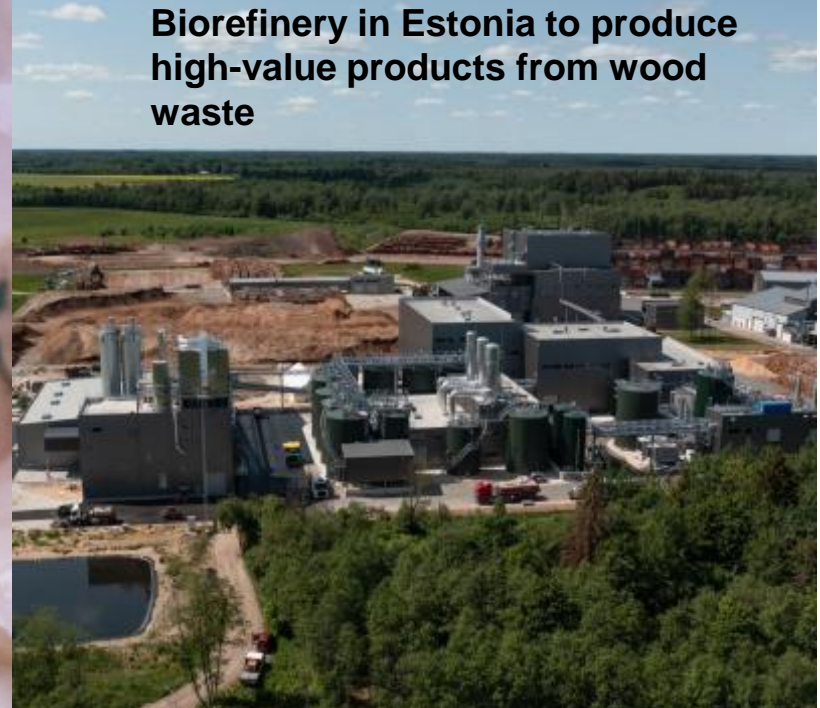


Winterhemp - From ecological intercropping to fine fiber



Functional materials for sustainable agriculture from poultry feathers

Biorefinery in Estonia to produce high-value products from wood waste

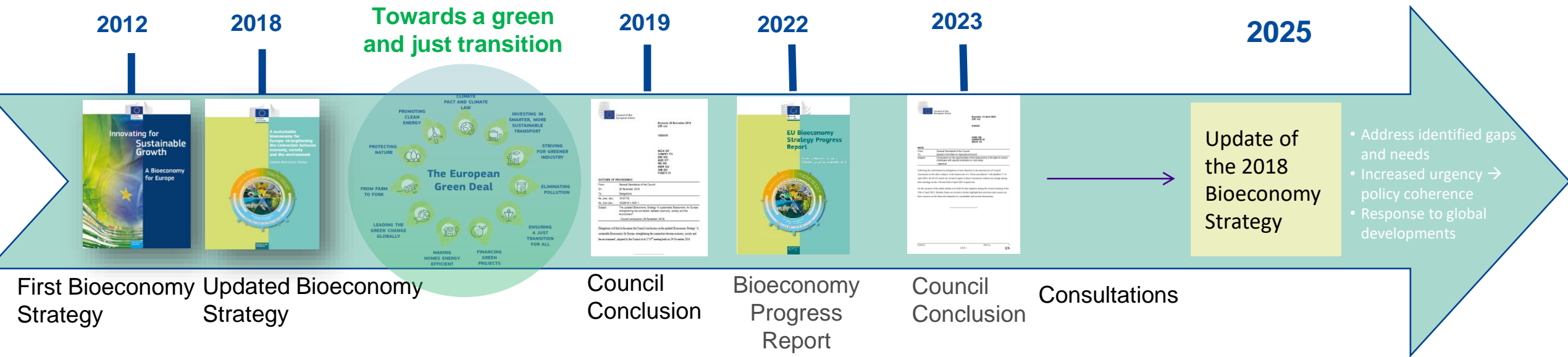


Small-scale biorefineries in grasslands



Bio-based fertilisers & soil enhancers from agriculture waste

EU Bioeconomy Strategy



The EU Bioeconomy Strategy and Action Plan

- **Key principles:** SUSTAINABILITY, CIRCULARITY, CROSS-SECTORIAL/HOLISTIC
- **Three priorities:**
 - Strengthening the biobased sectors
 - Deploy local bioeconomies
 - Understand the ecological boundaries
- A set of **14 well-defined actions**

1

STRENGTHEN AND SCALE-UP THE BIO-BASED SECTORS, UNLOCK INVESTMENTS AND MARKETS



Mobilise stakeholders in development and deployment of sustainable bio-based solutions



Launch the **EUR 100 million** Circular Bioeconomy Thematic Investment Platform



Analyse enablers and bottlenecks for the deployment of bio-based innovations



Promote and develop **standards, labels and market** uptake of bio-based products



Facilitate the development of new sustainable biorefineries



Develop new **biodegradable products**, including bio-based plastic substitutes

2

DEPLOY LOCAL BIOECONOMIES RAPIDLY ACROSS EUROPE



Launch a **Strategic Deployment Agenda** for sustainable food and farming systems, forestry and bio-based products



Launch **pilot actions** for the development of bioeconomies in rural, coastal and urban areas



Support regions and Member States to develop Bioeconomy Strategies



Promote education, training and skills across the bioeconomy

3

UNDERSTAND THE ECOLOGICAL BOUNDARIES OF THE BIOECONOMY



Enhance **knowledge** on biodiversity and ecosystems



Monitor **progress** towards a sustainable bioeconomy



Promote **good practices** to operate the bioeconomy within safe ecological limits



Enhance the **benefits** of biodiversity in primary production

EU Bioeconomy strategy update

Announced in the EC Communication on Biotechnology and Biomanufacturing

Led by DG Environment

Interservice group established with AGRI, CLIMA, COMPET, ENER, ENV, GROW, INTPA, JRC, MARE, RTD, SANTE, TRADE

To be delivered by end-2025 (TBC)

Public consultation in 2025

Possible focus areas: scaling up and deployment of bioeconomy solutions, addressing the regulatory barriers, market access, cascading use of biomass, circularity and secondary biomass, etc.



How can the EU Bioeconomy Strategy update support agriculture, forestry and rural areas?

Internal reflection on possible actions to:

- Better involve primary producers in bioeconomy value chains
- Improve the sustainability of the primary sectors
- Strengthen rural areas

What is possible within the current planning period?

- CAP 2023-2027
- Horizon Europe 2021-2027
- and beyond

Bioeconomy-related trade-offs

- Competition of land use
- Availability of sustainably sourced biomass
- Role of imported vs local bio-based feedstock
- Multi-functionality of forests
- Biomass sustainability issues vs. substitution of fossil resources



Reflection on the SCALE-UP results

Bioeconomy-related trade-offs	Outcomes of the SCALE-UP training programme
Better involve primary producers in bioeconomy value chains	Support cooperatives and clusters for resource pooling and integration
Improve the sustainability of the primary sectors	Develop dynamic regulatory barriers to support innovation and small-scale businesses
Strengthen rural areas	Establish regional stakeholder platforms that help sharing information, developing biomass hubs and logistics, and promoting innovation for scaling-up and cost reduction Support supply chains tailored to local conditions, ensuring regulatory compliance and environmental benefits
Availability of sustainably sourced biomass	Address research gaps such as the sustainable biomass potentials at local, regional, and global scales
Multi-functionality of forests	Develop local forest biomass supply systems that can efficiently supply biorefineries with sufficient raw material that meets their specific quality and seasonal demands
Biomass sustainability issues vs. substitution of fossil resources	Utilize policy monitoring systems and environmental protection planning tools to drive evidence-based decisions

Thank you



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